GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:631
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2001
METHANE GAS IN RANIGANJ COAL BELT AREA
SUNIL KHAN

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement was signed between the Government of West Bengal and ONGC to explore the methane gas in Raniganj coal belt area: and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (Sh. Santosh Kumar Gangwar)

(a)&(b): No, Sir. However, a Petroleum Exploration License(PEL) has been granted by the Government of West Bengal to Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd(ONGC) for exploration and production of Coal Bed Methane(CBM) in North Raniganj area. Accordingly, ONGC has carried out preliminary geological investigation and has taken up drilling of four cost effective slim holes for initial assessment of CBM potential in the PEL area.